

HOUSE RESOLUTION 29

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Flonnie Smith Webb Stephens of Oneida.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Flonnie Smith Webb Stephens; and

WHEREAS, Flonnie Smith Webb Stephens was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in a log cabin on January 22, 1909, to Richard and Mary Etta Smith at a time when travel was by horse and wagon and women had not yet gained the right to vote, Flonnie Stephens led a life that spanned over eleven decades and the administrations of eighteen presidents; and

WHEREAS, Flonnie Smith graduated as valedictorian of Oneida High School in 1929; after graduation, she worked for the telephone company for six years. She married Esau Webb in 1935, and the couple operated Webb Dairy Farms with Crusoe and Alta Smith Webb; and

WHEREAS, after her husband's passing in 1955, Flonnie Webb continued to work at the dairy; she also provided laundry and housework services and taught school. In 1972, she married Edward Stephens, with whom she enjoyed many years of marriage until his death in 1990; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stephens was deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Flonnie Stephens was dearly loved and will be sorely missed by her four daughters: Mary Lou Clark, Etta Jane Price, Ella Maye Van Fleet, and Lynna Ruth Standridge; seven grandchildren: Tony Clark, Greg Clark, Brian Clark, Adam Standridge, Aaron Standridge, Dirk Van Fleet, and Darla Price; eleven great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; three

nephews: R.H. Webb, David Webb, and Ralph Espy Smith; and a sister-in-law, Rebecca Dupree Smith; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, Flonnie Stephens was preceded in death by her sisters, Cassie Smith, Zona Smith, Alta Webb, and Cornelia Rosser; her brother, Ralph Espy Smith; her granddaughter, Marijke Van Fleet-Silvent; her nephew, Paul Webb; and her son-in-law, Larry Clark; and

WHEREAS, Flonnie Stephens leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Flonnie Smith Webb Stephens, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Stephens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.